



SALMON FIELD OFFICE

COMMUNICATION SITE PLAN



Prepared by the United States Bureau of Land Management
Salmon Field Office
Salmon Idaho
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**SALMON FIELD OFFICE COMMUNICATION SITE PLAN
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I. INTRODUCTION:

Demand for communication site locations is increasing annually in the United States primarily due to advances in communication technology and strong consumer interest. The Telecommunications Act of 1996 directs Federal agencies to accommodate telecommunication needs whenever possible. The Act states that “Federal departments and agencies may make available on a fair, reasonable, and nondiscriminatory basis, property, rights-of-way, and easements under their control for the placement of new telecommunications services...” The Act further states that “requests for the use of property, rights-of-way, and easements...should be granted absent unavoidable direct conflict with the department or agency’s mission...”

The Salmon Field Office Communication Site is located within an administration complex containing the Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM) Salmon Field Office and the Central Idaho Interagency Fire Cache. The communication site consists of a 40-foot self-supporting tower located within a security-fenced compound. The tower currently supports two omni antennas used for backup two-way radio communication (BLM, State of Idaho, and U.S. Forest Service) and a microwave relay to the Forest Service’s North Baldy communication site located on a mountain west of the city of Salmon. Radio equipment is housed in the Fire and Dispatch Warehouse.

This Communication Site Management Plan has been developed to document and evaluate the existing communication site and facilities located at the Salmon Field Office Communication Site. The plan also provides an outline for potential future development of the site in accordance with the Salmon Field Office’s current land use planning document, the Lemhi Resource Management Plan (RMP), and communication requirements of the Salmon Field Office and Central Idaho Interagency Fire Cache.

Current BLM supplemental program guidance (SPG) for resource management planning specifies that every planning document shall contain determinations relevant to communication sites. The Lemhi RMP, approved in April, 1987, provides general right-of-way guidance (page 30), but the plan does not discuss specific details needed for the proper management of communication sites. Therefore, in order to supplement the land use planning document, it is proper to prepare and implement a site management plan to address specific communication site issues.

As of the writing of this site plan, no authorized lessees or right-of-way holders have located at the Salmon Field Office Communication Site. Requests for collocation in the communication site facility may be analyzed and authorized at the discretion of the BLM Authorized Officer through the issuance of new Communications Use Leases or right-of-way grants. However, due to the location of the communication site, no commercial interest in the site has been received to date.

A. Definitions

The terms used in this Plan conform as much as possible to the definitions published in the November 13, 1995 Federal Register notice entitled “Rights-of-way, Rental Schedule for Communication Uses; Final Rule and Notices” and to definition clarifications provided in BLM’s Communication Site Right-of-way Handbook (H-2860-1).

The terms “lessee” or “holder” as used in this site plan refer to the legal relationship between the United States Bureau of Land Management and the holder of a BLM authorization. Unless otherwise noted, the terms are considered synonymous. The terms “lease” or “right-of-way” refer to an authorization issued by the BLM. These terms may also be used synonymously.

The term “tenant” is defined as an occupant who rents space in a facility and operates communication equipment in the facility to resell the communication service to others for a profit.

The term “customer” is defined as a person or entity who is paying the facility owner or tenant for communication services, and is not reselling communication services to others.

A “Ranally Metro Area” represents Rand McNally’s definition of the developed areas around important cities. The areas include one or more central cities, satellite communities, and suburbs, in most cases with a combined population of at least 50,000. Rand McNally has identified 452 RMAs, 417 of which have populations of 50,000 or more.

“Personal Communications Services” (PCS) is a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) term describing two-way personal, digital wireless communications systems. An “Internet Service Provider” (ISP) is a person or business who provides customers with connections to the Internet, either through ground wires or using wireless technology.

“Low Power Use” is defined for purposes contained in this document as a transmitter

operating at less than 1000 watts Effective Radiated Power (ERP).

B. Abbreviations

- 1. BLM–Bureau of Land Management**
- 2. FM–Facility Manager**
- 3. ROW–Right-of-way**
- 4. RMA–Ranally Metro Area**
- 5. FLPMA–Federal Land Policy & Management Act of 1976 (P.L. 94-579)**
- 6. PCS–Personal Communications Services**
- 7. NEPA–the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969**
- 8. SF-299–Standard Form 299 (Application Form)**
- 9. ESMR–Enhanced Specialized Mobile Radio**
- 10. ISP–Internet Service Provider**
- 11. ERP–Effective Radiated Power**

C. Relationship of The Salmon Field Office Site Plan to Communications Use Leases

This site plan will be incorporated into any future right-of-way grants or Communications Use Leases issued for the collocation of communication facilities at the Salmon Field Office Communication Site. **Provisions of the site plan are enforced through the right-of-way grant or lease authorization.**

D. Site Location

The Salmon Field Office Communication Site is located less than a mile south of the city of Salmon, Idaho and a mile east of the Salmon River. Elevation of the site is 3965'. Latitude and Longitude of the site is roughly 45 degrees 9 minutes North Latitude, 113 degrees 53 minutes West Longitude. The communication site tower is located on the north side of the BLM Fire & Dispatch building. The site is legally described as follows:

T. 21 N., R. 22 E., Boise Meridian
Section 8, SW¼SW¼;

E. Population Served

The general population of the area served by the Salmon Field Office Communication Site is less than 25,000, thus the site does not qualify as a RMA. For annual rental purposes, commercial communication facilities operating out of the communication site

would fall within BLM's Fee Schedule Zone 9. As previously mentioned, no commercial facilities are currently located at the Salmon Field Office Communication Site.

F. Communication Site Background

The fire and dispatch building and communication tower were constructed in 1988. The facility has been used only by governmental agencies, including the BLM and U.S. Forest Service, since the date of its construction.

II. EXISTING SITUATION:

The Salmon Field Office Communication Site presents a unique situation unlike most communication site mountain tops located on public land. For a number of reasons, the potential uses of the site are severely limited. These reasons include the following:

- The existing tower height is only 40'.
- The site is located within a secure fenced governmental compound, thus access to the site is restricted at certain times of the day and night.
- The short tower height precludes the use of the site for high-power uses due to the potential radio frequency radiation (RFR) hazard which would exist within a high pedestrian travel area.
- The existing tower site is too low in elevation to be of much value to commercial carriers as coverage to potential customers would be poor. Higher hills surrounding the city would provide better coverage for wireless communication services.

The Salmon Field Office Communication Site is currently used only for governmental, low-power, two-way radio communication purposes and a microwave relay to North Baldy Mountain. The self-supporting tower located on site is only 40' in height and can be extended to a maximum of only 60' in height. Access to the Salmon Field Office is available from Highway 93, but access to the communication site is restricted for security reasons. Commercial power and phone service are available on site.

III. OBJECTIVES:

Objectives of this site plan are as follows:

- A. To document site management policy, procedures, and standards which are not specified in BLM's standard Communications Use Lease.
- B. To manage the Salmon Field Office Communication Site as a low-power communication site compatible with BLM's administration needs and the needs of the Central Idaho Interagency Fire Cache.

- C. To establish communication guidelines for operations within the communication site.
- D. To protect the interests of current governmental agencies by preserving a safe and electronically “clean” environment.
- E. To consider compatible joint use of space and facilities in accordance with current laws and regulations.

IV. STANDARDS

Any requests to collocate communication facilities or equipment at the Salmon Field Office Communication Site would be coordinated with the Bureau of Land Management and the Central Idaho Interagency Fire Cache. Requests for collocation would be limited to governmental agencies or possibly to PCS or wireless internet service providers providing proposed services cause no interference with the current governmental uses operating on site. Additional collocation requests from governmental or commercial applicants would be authorized through issuance of a Communications Use Lease or Right-of-way grant. In the event of conflict between the terms of this communication plan and terms of an approved Communications Use Lease or Right-of-way grant, the **LEASE/GRANT LANGUAGE GOVERNS**.

All proposed communication site equipment, including the attachment of additional antennas to BLM’s existing tower, must be reviewed and approved by the BLM, Salmon Field Office and Central Idaho Interagency Fire Cache.

No new communication site facilities will be authorized until the application process described below has been followed. This process includes consideration of site availability, physical, environmental, and technical capability of a proposal, and the future management of the communication site.

New Proposals and Amendments

The following application process will be followed when requesting collocation at the Salmon Field Office Communication Site:

1. Application Submissions:

Forms (SF-299) are available from any BLM office and on the web at **www.blm.gov/nhp/what/lands/realty/forms/299/index.html**.

*Note: An application is not considered complete and cannot be processed until all information deemed necessary by the BLM Authorized Officer is provided in an acceptable format. Submission of an application **does not** guarantee approval of a*

Communications Use Lease or issuance of a Right-of-way Grant.

- a. Pre-application Activity: Applicants interested in occupying the Salmon Field Office Communication Site are required to discuss proposals, prior to filing a formal application, with the Bureau of Land Management, Salmon Field Office.
- b. Need or Justification for a Project: Applicants or new proponents will be required to demonstrate a valid need to occupy the Salmon Field Office Communication Site.

Applications must be accompanied by the following items:

- Completed application form SF-299.
- Copy of an FCC license, construction permit, frequency assignment, station license, or NTIA/IRAC authorization. If a license has not been issued, then a copy of the applicant's application is required.
- Copy of FAA form 7460-1 or FAA approval letter.
- Complete BLM Technical Data Report listing the applicant's authorized frequencies (if applicable).

Applications for proposed communication sites at the Salmon Field Office Communication Site should be filed with the following office unless otherwise directed:

Bureau of Land Management
Salmon Field Office
50 Highway 93 South
Salmon, ID 83467

2. Application Processing:

- Application is filed with the BLM, Salmon Field Office.
- Applicant is notified of a required, non-refundable filing fee. The non-refundable filing fee must be paid prior to any formal application processing. The establishment of a filing fee is an appealable action subject to review by the Interior Board of Land Appeals.
- County governments, impacted right-of-way holders, and other affected or interested publics are notified of the filed application.
- Inventory work is completed and an environmental document is prepared to fulfill the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and other applicable laws and regulations.
- Unless the applicant's application is rejected, a Communications Use Lease or Right-of-way grant is prepared and forwarded to the applicant for review, acceptance of the required stipulations, signature, and payment of required rental charges.

–Upon return of the above items to the Salmon Field Office, an authorizing document is issued by the BLM.

V. Communication Site Plan Review/Revisions

The Salmon Field Office Communication Site Plan will be reviewed every five years to determine if a revision of the plan is needed. Active lessees/holders will be invited to participate in any revision process.

VII. COMMUNICATION SITE APPROVAL

The Salmon Field Office Communication Site Plan has been reviewed by the Bureau of Land Management, Salmon Field Office staff, and the Central Idaho Interagency Fire Cache organization.

Approved by: Bureau of Land Management, Salmon Field Office

/s/Richard Buster
Acting Field Office Manager

Date: 09/19/2002
